

Message Text

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TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: COUNTRY MUSIC USA

1. "COUNTRY MUSIC USA" SHOW OPENED OCTOBER 7 IN MOSCOW'S STATE CENTRAL CONCERT HALL IN THE HOTEL "ROSSIYA" TO A COMPLETELY SOLD OUT HOUSE. AUDIENCE'S RESPONSE WAS AS WARM AND REFRESHING AS THE PERFORMANCE ITSELF.

2. MINISTER OF CULTURE FURTSEVA AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FIRYUBIN (FURTSEVA'S HUSBAND) WERE RANKING SOVIETS AT MINCULT'S PROTOCOL NIGHT, HOSTING AMBASSADOR AND OTHER EMBOFFS. OTHER MINCULT OFFICIALS WHO TURNED OUT WERE DEPUTY MINISTER POPOV, DYUZHEV, BUTROVA, SHERSHUKOV. GOSKONTsert WAS REPRESENTED BY DIRECTOR ALESHCHENKO AND FORMER DEPUTY DIRECTOR GOLOVIN (NOT REPLACED TO DATE). KAMENEV REPRESENTED MFA'S CULTURAL DIVISION.

3. FURTSEVA SEEMED TO GENUINELY ENJOY THE SHOW AND DURING THE FINAL ENCORES (RUSSIAN FOLKSONGS AND DANCES), SHE ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPLAUDED IN RHYTHM ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE SPECIALLY INVITED AUDIENCE. POPOV REMARKED IT WAS A "NICE, CLEAN AMERICAN SHOW." BUTROVA SAID SHE WAS NOT SURPRISED AT THE WARM RECEPTION WHICH SHE "HAD PREDICTED ALL ALONG." SHE TOLD FORD SHE HAD BEEN A FAN OF HIS SINCE 1957. GOLOVIN EMBRACED ACAO AFTER FIRST PART AND SAID CMUSA WAS BEST SHOW HE HAD SIGNED A CONTRACT FOR IN ALL HIS THIRTEEN YEARS AT GOSKONTsert. KAMENEV'S YOUNG DAUGHTER

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SAID THE SHOW RECALLED HER FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

4. ON THE OTHER HAND SOME PROFESSIONALS, AMONG THEM A RIGA MUSICIAN WHO HAS FORMED HIS OWN COUNTRY AND BLUE GRASS BAND, EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE SHOW'S COMMERCIALIZATION OF THE GENRE.

5. SHOW IS GENERATING MUCH INTEREST FOR INTERVIEWS BY LOCAL PRESS. STATE COMMITTEE FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION INTENDS FILM LIVE PERFORMANCE ON OCTOBER 10.
STOESSEL

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